



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

Gary Keough, State Statistician

53 Pleasant St. Room 3450, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1432

www.nass.usda.gov/nh
Week ending July 24, 2016

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov
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Excellent week for field work: New England averaged 6.0 days suitable for field work last week.

Conditions remained hot and dry throughout New England last week, with a few areas experiencing localized thunderstorms, hail, and high winds. The average weekly temperatures ranged from three degrees below normal to seven degrees above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 2.93 inches. Vermont seemed to be the only state in the region that received enough rainfall to help crops recover from the recent drought-like conditions. Field corn was growing, but showed signs of drought stress due to the heat and lack of moisture for the past several weeks. Second cuttings of hay had slowed due to the lack of moisture, and yields were reported as being lower due to the dry conditions. Farmers with irrigation were using it, and irrigated crops seemed to be doing well compared to those without irrigation in the region. Apples in most locations were in a state of delayed growth or showing heat damage. In Vermont, recent showers washed off fungicides from apples and grapes and need reapplied. The harvesting of blueberries and raspberries continued. In Massachusetts, frequent irrigation was necessary to help maintain adequate soil moisture on cranberry beds. As strawberry harvest had come to an end throughout the region, growers were busy cultivating and weeding the newly renovated beds. Vegetable growers remained busy harvesting beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, eggplants, greens, lettuce, peppers, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Some of the farm activities last week included irrigating crops, manure spreading, and interseeding rye cover crop on corn fields.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending July 24, 2016 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	19	30	40	11
SUBSOIL	20	33	41	6

Crop Conditions as of July 24, 2016 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	4	5	23	49	19
BLUEBERRIES, TAME	0	1	14	73	12
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	0	0	10	24	66
CORN	0	5	32	50	13
DRY HAY	2	7	20	68	3
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	90	10
PASTURE AND RANGE	5	36	42	17	0
PEACHES	79	6	9	4	2
PEARS	1	6	48	41	4
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	38	62
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	3	6	58	33
RYE (ME)	0	0	0	39	61
SWEET CORN	0	5	22	73	0

Crop Progress as of July 24, 2016 (in percent)

Item	This Week
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	27
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PETAL FALL	95
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FRUIT SET	92
CRANBERRIES (MA): FULL BLOOM	100
CRANBERRIES (MA): PETAL FALL	95
CRANBERRIES (MA): FRUIT SET	80
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	63
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	8
POTATOES (ME): BLOOMING	32
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	15

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oc/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

July 24, 2016 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	91	57	72	+2	0.19	4	9.39	-4.52	40	1163	+41	2102
	Bangor_Intl_Air	93	57	75	+6	0.79	3	9.67	-2.98	46	1320	+262	2262
	Bethel	88	51	68	-2	1.11	4	13.14	-1.98	37	1037	+17	1911
	Bridgton	89	52	68	+1	0.88	4	11.94	-2.98	38	1039	+104	1924
	Caribou_Municip	85	52	68	+3	0.54	3	14.17	+1.92	48	982	+154	1823
	Dover-Foxcroft	90	48	69	+2	0.90	3	11.16	-3.04	46	962	+160	1826
	Durham	92	50	71	+2	0.36	4	10.69	-4.02	41	1082	+80	2011
	East_Surry	85	51	69	+1	0.09	1	12.30	-2.12	48	878	-70	1772
	Eustis	85	48	65	+3	0.75	5	9.11	-4.42	44	827	+197	1624
	Frenchville	80	50	67	+2	0.97	3	13.92	+1.32	52	875	+121	1686
	Harmony	90	47	68	-1	2.07	4	12.33	-1.59	40	1029	+75	1931
	Houlton	88	49	68	+2	0.70	2	11.35	-1.09	45	917	+80	1770
	Livermore_Falls	92	46	69	+3	0.27	2	10.40	-4.99	35	1013	+192	1895
	Millinocket_Wtr	89	53	69	+1	0.11	1	10.83	-3.39	35	878	-76	1706
	Moosehead	85	48	67	+3	0.44	5	12.23	-2.38	48	864	+164	1671
	Portland_ME	95	55	73	+5	0.14	2	9.25	-4.69	38	1156	+168	2103
	Rangeley_2NW	85	49	63	-2	0.93	4	10.18	-3.49	51	764	+61	1543
	Sanford	92	52	72	+2	0.62	3	9.55	-5.44	31	1185	+5	2112
	Topsfield_2	88	52	69	+2	0.63	4	13.18	-1.29	46	931	+46	1799
	Turner	89	54	70	-2	0.57	4	10.75	-3.81	42	1118	-105	2015
	Wesley_2W	87	48	69	+2	0.85	2	12.00	-1.30	32	980	+98	1866
	West_Rockport	86	54	71	+3	1.36	4	12.19	-3.22	42	1020	+120	1918
	Whiting	87	53	70	+5	0.74	3	10.83	-4.82	39	971	+257	1890
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	87	46	67	-1	1.49	4	11.85	-1.67	45	967	+55	1828
	Bradford_2	89	47	68	-2	0.29	2	10.06	-4.96	33	1005	-125	1891
	Colebrook	86	47	66	-1	1.63	4	12.27	-1.55	57	822	-14	1611
	Concord	97	49	74	+4	0.36	3	7.47	-4.65	43	1388	+230	2361
	East_Milford	95	51	74	+3	1.00	2	6.77	-7.56	41	1355	+110	2338
	Epping	94	51	73	+3	0.68	2	8.06	-6.06	39	1251	+86	2207
	Errol_AP	85	44	65	+1	0.68	3	12.55	-0.44	43	837	+105	1642
	Greenville	91	51	71	+4	0.35	2	7.68	-6.60	36	1156	+169	2094
	Hancock	93	46	70	+2	0.34	3	7.53	-7.14	42	1162	+85	2079
	Jaffrey_Silver_	92	51	72	+4	1.03	3	8.37	-5.91	43	1306	+319	2264
	Jefferson	86	48	67	0	1.56	4	13.87	+0.08	51	1013	+45	1871
	Keene_AG	94	47	70	0	0.17	2	8.14	-5.54	39	1231	+106	2182
	Lakeport_2	91	55	73	+2	0.45	2	10.26	-3.56	34	1356	+169	2308
	Lebanon	90	48	71	+3	0.60	3	12.02	+0.15	42	1345	+255	2283
	North_Conway	92	51	70	+1	0.76	4	12.39	-2.84	43	1200	+118	2097
	Tamworth_4	88	46	67	+1	1.52	4	14.44	-2.20	45	955	+89	1826
	Wolfeburro	86	54	71	-2	0.20	2	11.75	-2.07	40	1200	+13	2155
Vermont	Averill	84	46	64	+2	2.93	3	13.46	-2.19	35	828	+221	1585
	Bennington_AP	91	45	69	+4	0.08	2	8.68	-7.97	46	1262	+338	2234
	Burlington_Intl	94	53	74	+3	1.22	3	10.24	-2.49	45	1480	+258	2412
	Corinth	89	48	67	-2	0.52	3	10.99	-0.86	44	923	-68	1772
	Johnson_2N	85	47	66	-2	2.78	4	14.90	+1.11	46	949	+22	1791
	Marlboro_Raws	93	50	72	+6	0.27	3	11.34	-1.81	44	1165	+281	2092
	Montpelier_AP	87	47	68	0	1.02	3	11.33	-0.52	46	1028	+37	1899
	Newport_AG	85	49	67	-3	2.14	4	12.10	-1.68	46	1044	-96	1880

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	89	47	68	+2	0.03	1	11.86	-3.62	37	1013	+76	1895
	Rutland_AG	90	47	70	0	0.34	2	11.36	-2.42	50	1140	-37	2050
	Springfield_VT	90	47	70	+2	0.60	2	8.98	-6.34	39	1232	+199	2172
	South_Lincoln	87	45	66	0	0.10	2	10.92	-5.40	42	899	+99	1750
	Sutton	84	47	65	-1	2.24	5	16.98	+2.81	54	929	+112	1766
	Walden	84	43	65	-2	2.15	4	15.79	+1.62	52	744	-73	1519
	Woodstock	90	47	69	+1	0.24	3	10.01	-3.66	37	1186	+143	2095
Massachusetts	Amherst	96	49	74	+2	0.00	0	7.14	-7.66	38	1395	+124	2403
	Barre_Falls_Dam	93	48	73	+5	0.00	0	8.03	-6.74	44	1228	+251	2167
	Bedford_Hanscom	97	51	76	+5	0.13	1	6.22	-8.11	40	1449	+161	2460
	Beverly_Ag	95	50	73	-1	0.30	3	8.13	-4.77	41	1162	-174	2138
	Birch_Hill_Dam	94	47	72	+4	0.24	2	7.51	-7.03	40	1244	+253	2200
	Boston_Logan_In	98	65	79	+5	0.01	1	7.68	-4.71	36	1530	+96	2563
	Chatham_AP	88	59	75	+7	0.13	2	10.24	-3.48	42	1237	+290	2215
	Chicopee_Westov	96	48	74	+3	0.11	1	8.30	-6.50	37	1471	+200	2485
	Edgartown	90	57	75	+5	0.35	3	11.60	-2.02	42	1305	+163	2326
	East_Brimfield_	93	52	73	+4	0.25	3	10.40	-4.02	50	1264	+120	2239
	Fitchburg	98	55	78	+6	0.00	0	6.28	-8.83	34	1609	+296	2634
	Greenfield	94	51	73	+1	0.20	2	9.14	-5.66	45	1381	+110	2370
	Hyannis_AP	88	57	76	+5	0.29	1	10.71	-1.61	38	1294	+183	2287
	Maynard	101	50	75	+4	0.03	1	8.17	-6.16	41	1468	+180	2478
	New_Bedford	94	52	76	+2	0.65	2	11.47	-3.18	40	1402	+2	2413
	Newburyport	95	55	74	+2	0.88	3	7.89	-6.55	42	1280	-3	2249
	North_Adams_Har	89	47	70	+3	0.21	3	10.05	-7.04	46	1282	+331	2253
	Norwood	97	47	76	+3	0.01	1	7.11	-6.60	38	1407	+59	2425
	Pittsfield	90	48	70	+2	0.00	0	11.10	-5.13	43	1195	+111	2158
	Plymouth	93	56	77	+4	0.80	2	9.79	-4.74	41	1364	+80	2350
	Taunton_4NW	96	56	77	+5	1.24	3	12.40	-1.54	47	1486	+185	2503
	Westfield_Barne	98	52	76	+7	0.11	1	7.65	-7.56	41	1534	+447	2555
	West_Otis	93	52	74	+6	0.29	3	10.69	-6.93	52	1359	+335	2358
	Worcester	92	56	75	+5	0.35	2	8.14	-7.42	42	1340	+181	2324
	Worthington	89	48	69	+1	0.19	1	11.00	-5.41	46	1078	+82	2001
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	91	57	75	+4	0.19	1	9.17	-3.99	42	1328	+162	2348
	Providence	93	59	78	+5	2.10	3	11.92	-1.64	43	1592	+173	2635
	Westerly-Wester	92	56	76	+4	0.00	0	10.26	-3.89	36	1396	+135	2427
	Woonsocket	95	55	76	+4	0.05	2	11.63	-2.99	40	1461	+136	2483
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	97	64	81	+6	0.53	1	11.00	-3.50	42	1704	+247	2774
	Danbury_AP	93	53	75	+3	0.50	1	9.51	-7.30	45	1463	+59	2501
	Hartford_Bradle	99	54	78	+5	0.10	2	8.16	-6.76	43	1665	+157	2714
	Meriden-Meriden	96	54	77	+5	0.09	1	8.84	-8.21	42	1637	+304	2691
	Norfolk	90	51	72	+4	0.02	1	10.01	-7.61	40	1207	+183	2155
	Norwich	95	57	77	+4	0.10	2	11.71	-3.39	36	1543	+116	2586
	Staffordville	92	51	72	+2	0.28	1	10.76	-4.94	40	1184	+6	2148
	Thomaston_Dam	97	50	74	+4	0.01	1	11.28	-4.92	51	1435	+231	2452
	West_Thompson_L	95	51	74	+4	0.01	1	10.52	-5.32	40	1296	+110	2283
	Willimantic	93	55	76	+6	0.36	4	10.64	-5.06	45	1619	+441	2670

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Corn overall is short; pollinating at 5-8 feet. Grass is not growing much at all due to dry conditions.

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

Hot and dry. Corn showing signs of drought stress. Vegetable growers irrigating as able. Harvesting sweet corn, a few peaches, blueberries, eggplants and lots of summer squash and cucumbers.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Hot, dry weather continues. Some apple varieties are showing heat damage. Trimming grape vines; with dry weather, very little disease issues in grapes. Irrigating new plantings of grapes. Irrigating vegetables. Apple crop light. Blueberries doing well. No peaches. No nectarines. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) boxes of produce started this week.

MAINE

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Warm, sunny week is ripening vegetables and fruit. Sweet corn, cucumbers, highbush blueberries, raspberries and other crops have all become available. Thunderstorms on Friday and Saturday gave some areas heavy rain and localized hail. Most areas are still looking for rain. Apples are in a state of delayed growth due to lack of moisture. Second crop hay will be light due to the drought.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

The big news was a severe thunderstorm with high winds, half dollar sized hail and extreme downpours that hit the northern half of the county. Fortunately, there are not many orchards or crops there. There was structural damage on buildings, many trees went down and there was some roadside washouts. In the southern part of the county, the corn crop is responding very well to the heat. Showers have been timely in this area. Water levels are down. We could use more rain.

WASHINGTON, Michael Look

Still need rain. Very dry.

MASSACHUSETTS

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Dry weather continues; farmers are starting to report low water levels for irrigation. Potato vines are showing drought stress. Corn is also showing signs of stunted growth and dry conditions. Hot dry weather is also encouraging aphid populations. Pastures are showing signs of stress. Field tomatoes and peppers are showing up at farm stands. Sweet corn is coming in.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Another dry week with no rain and low dew points. Water supplies are showing stress as frequent irrigation is needed to maintain adequate soil moisture on the cranberry beds.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Some early sweet corn now ready.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Despite a few passing showers, it's still bone dry out there. Farms reporting low yields on second cutting hay. Many corn fields showing moisture stress, some of it fairly severe. Irrigated vegetable crops still doing well, and greater variety of crops showing up in stands. First sweet corn starting to appear. Pick-Your-Own (PYO) blueberries continues.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Mix of hot weather with heavy thunderstorms and wind causing power problems in some areas. Rumors of hail, no reports of damage at this point. Field corn looking pretty good with better moisture conditions than other parts of the state.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Strong thunderstorms on Saturday 7/23 brought much needed rain, but also some downed trees and power outages.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Topsoil moisture remained below normal. Conditions remain dry. Scattered thunder storms dropped just over 0.3 inches of rain over a 7 day period. Heavy morning fog along the river bottom has helped provide moisture for the corn crop (most of the corn is grown on river bottom fields). Vegetable growers are selectively providing supplemental water where it is physically possible to do so. Hay yields are suffering due to the drought.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Drought conditions throughout the county with two localized showers occurring during the week, gave temporary local relief but not for long. Very spotty showers. If irrigation is not available, all crops are suffering. Almost eight inches of rainfall below normal. Fruit: Blueberry and raspberry harvests continued. Strawberry cultivating and weeding newly renovated beds. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, spraying if needed, and mowing orchard floors. Some fruit trees showing heat and drought stress. Vegetables: Irrigating crops where irrigation ponds' water levels are going down or are empty. Farmers kept busy harvesting, cultivating, hoeing weeds, monitoring pest pressures, and spraying pesticides for insects and diseases. Growers harvesting an array of vegetables, including beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash and sweet corn. Field Crops: Farmers making baled hay; first crop is only good for mulch. Second crop of hay has dried up. Silage corn is rapidly growing and shows signs of drought.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Very active weather week. Monday evening the town of Plaistow and surrounding areas was hit by a microburst or funnel with gusty winds up to 90 miles per hour, uprooting trees as old as one that was 120 years old on a farm, destructing greenhouse. Hail damage on Swiss chard and other crops. Not sure if crops will survive. Downpour rain in that town as well as other towns. Power outages in different towns. Again Saturday evening Hampton and surrounding towns experienced a microburst, rain downpour and gusty winds resulting in more trees uprooting and power outages. The week was very hot and humid. Growers VERY CONCERNED ABOUT DROUGHT. Dug wells are already dry and river levels and ponds are very low. IRRIGATION is the biggest chore this week among harvesting, weeding and harvesting an array of vegetables. Sweet corn about ready to be picked. Blueberry harvest going strong. Second hay crop looks weak with the lack of rain. Renovating strawberry beds.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Rhode Island has gone from abnormally dry conditions (D-0) to moderately dry conditions (D-1) within a week as reported on the Rhode Island Drought Monitor. This week the temperatures and humidity levels have increased. Farmers are irrigating more and continue to harvest vegetables. Blueberries have started to be harvested. The quality and quantity of the blueberry crop in many areas of the state varies due to the effects caused by gypsy moths.

VERMONT

ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw

Recent heavy rains have erased immediate drought concerns but subsoil moisture remains low. Fungicides have been washed off apple and grape crops and will require reapplication to prevent sooty blotch and flyspeck on apples and rots on apples and grapes. Apple maggot fly is active and requires treatment in most orchards. Second generation codling moth are flying and will require treatment sometime next week.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

A little more much needed rain came through on Saturday.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Some much needed rains have come at the right time for corn pollination in Franklin County, Vermont this week. Tassels have appeared in corn and should have enough moisture for good pollination. Hay harvest has slowed with most of the good growth in second and third done. Now waiting for regrowth that the rains have helped bring along. Pastures are coming back with the much needed rains. Gardens are looking great with most growth past the need of a lot of moisture. Bird activity seems very high in the blueberries with difficulty picking ripe berries before the birds get them. Sweet corn is slowly appearing at the road stands with dry weather holding back maturity and ear development. This crop may not escape the dry weather pollination problem.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

There were several rain events that are helping to replenish the water table from the earlier drought conditions. The corn is looking very good at 4-6 feet tall and a deep green. The yield for second cut is low due to the dry conditions earlier. Activities for this past week included second crop hay harvest, manure spreading and some interseeding of rye cover crop on corn land.